January 18, 1980

Prof. David R. Wrone
1518 Blackberry Lane
Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481

Dear Dave:

Enclosed is the FBI's description of its abstracts which I mentioned to you during our chat last night. It is from a publication entitled "FBI Central Records System" which is put out by the FBI's Records Management Division.

My recollection is that when I asked Quin Shea's former assistant, Doug Mitchell, why we had not been provided with copies of these abstracts, he said that they were not considered records. I've asked Harold to send you a copy of those remarks if he comes across them while reading Mitchell's testimony.

Your affidavit should include some description of your credentials, including particularly your bibliographical publications on the JFK Assassination, both past and forthcoming. Some of this information was in the affidavit you submitted a couple of years ago in connection with Harold's motion for a waiver of search fees and copying costs, and you may be able to lift it verbatim without having to write an entirely new account. Suggest you also mention that you teach a popular class on the subject.

Primary point of the affidavit is simply to state that the abstracts would be of great utility to scholars who use these records in their work and would save them a great deal of time. Also mention that Harold has stated his intention to donate JFK and MLK and other records to an archive at Stevens Point because of his confidence in your handling of these subjects.

When you complete your draft, suggest you phone me and read it, as there will not be enough time to send it here first, then back to you for signature.

I am enclosing four abstracts which I subpoenaed because they correspond to FBI serials which the inventory worksheets claim are "missing." These abstracts say they were all skipped during serialization, but they were not prepared until 1977. Because they seem to correspond approximately with the dates on which theyunderlying documents were processed in C.A. 75-1996, I gather they were prepared when the processor became aware of a gap in the files. If authentic, and I have no reason to doubt that they are, this would save a scholar needless time (and some embarrassment) spent trying to locate them or establishing or speculating on what happened to them.